

# AROUND TOWN

Established 1859

Spring 2024



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## BOROUGH HALL AND CENTRAL STATION CELEBRATE REOPENING

On December 2nd and 9th respectively, Borough Hall and the Central Fire and Ambulance Station celebrated ribbon cutting ceremonies in honor of the completion of our two-year remodeling projects. Both buildings were significantly redeveloped, with the total cost between the buildings totaling approximately \$11 million.

Borough Hall was originally constructed in 1938, on top of part of an original foundation that was built in the 1800's. While the building has served our residents and staff well over the past 86 years, the building needed serious upgrades. The electrical was a mix between old knob and tube and modern electric. There was no functioning furnace in the building, therefore all offices were heated by space heaters and cooled by wall air conditioners. Staff had to be careful as to what rooms were using the heaters, as too many would trip the fuses in the fuse box. The plumbing in the men's bathroom needed to be ripped out, however, we were unable to do that because of the asbestos lining the pipes. The roof was leaking and there was mold in the basement due to dampness. The elevator had issues in the winter because the elevator controls were in an unheated garage, therefore, they would gel up when it was extremely cold. As the engineers and architects designed the building, there was a need for full asbestos abatement, significant ADA upgrades, repointing of the block work, new windows, security and technology improvements, and significant utility improvements. The building needed additional meeting space for different committees, departments, commissions, and community organizations as well. The building had no alarm system or fire suppression system.

The Central Fire and Ambulance Station was built in 1980. The building was originally designed to house the volunteer Fire Department, with the volunteer Ambulance Corps being added shortly after. Because the building was designed for volunteers, there were significant deficiencies with security for narcotic medications, significant deficiencies with HIPAA protection in report writing rooms, inadequate bathrooms, inadequate separation of sleeping quarters, inadequate protection from carcinogens from used equipment and coats, and inadequate space for two fully staffed 24 hour paid departments. During elections, we would literally be sharing our departments' lunchroom and training room with the public as they were coming in to cast their ballots. In addition, the building had no fire suppression system or exhaust removal system. The building also needed additional office and training space.

After nearly a year of design work, Borough Council and our management teams moved forward with the construction process of the buildings. Borough offices were relocated for two years to the old Rodale daycare



Continued on page 3

## Borough of Emmaus

28 South 4th St. • Emmaus, PA 18049

610-965-9292 • Fax: 610-965-0705



[www.emmauspa.gov](http://www.emmauspa.gov)

### Borough Contact Information

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Town Hall (Main #)           | 610-965-9292 |
| Borough Manager              | 610-966-6357 |
| Asst. Borough Manager        | 610-421-6950 |
| Borough Manager Admin. Asst. | 610-965-0701 |
| Pavilion Rentals             | 610-965-0702 |
| Public Works                 | 610-965-9288 |
| Refuse/Recycling             | 610-965-0702 |
| Tax Collector                | 610-967-4598 |
| Treasurer                    | 610-965-5865 |
| Water/Sewer Billing          | 610-965-9231 |
| Zoning                       | 610-967-1322 |
| Ambulance Corps              | 610-967-5615 |
| Fire Department              | 610-967-5630 |
| Fire Inspector               | 610-965-0719 |
| Mayor                        | 610-965-9255 |
| Police Non-Emergency         | 610-967-3113 |
| Emergency 911                | 911          |

[www.emmauspa.gov](http://www.emmauspa.gov)

### Other Important Phone Numbers

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Berkheimer (per capita tax)                | 610-599-3139  |
| PA One Call                                | 1-800-242-1776  |
| Streetlights – Repair and Maintenance, PPL | 1-800-342-5775  |
| Trash/Recycling – Whitetail Disposal       | 610-936-9967;<br><a href="mailto:emmaus@whitetaildisposal.com">emmaus@whitetaildisposal.com</a> |

Please note that Town Hall will be closed on March 29, 2024 in observance of Good Friday.

### Assistant Pool Manager

The Borough of Emmaus is looking for a friendly, organized, and outgoing individual to help manage the day-to-day operations of their Summer Outdoor Pool located in Community Park. This is a great opportunity for a teacher on summer break, a stay-at-home parent, retired person, or someone looking for a way to make some extra money in the summer months! Must be currently certified as an American Red Cross Lifeguard or possess the ability to obtain certification before May 15th, 2024.

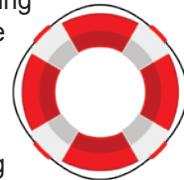
Prior experience managing lifeguards and an aquatic facility preferred. Ability to work nights and weekends as scheduled. Must possess the ability to lead and manage staff, create, and manage schedules that include cleaning and helping to maintain the summer pool facility. This individual will be responsible for conducting weekly meetings and trainings, while assisting the Pool Manager to maintain appropriate sanitation levels during the pool operating season. The pool is open from May 25th-September 2nd.

All interested candidates should contact the Parks, Recreation, and Facilities director at [parksdirector@emmauspa.gov](mailto:parksdirector@emmauspa.gov) or call 610-421-6966.

### Lifeguard, Concession Attendant, Cashier, and Park Attendant

The Borough of Emmaus is currently accepting applications for part time positions as a Lifeguard, Concession Attendant, Cashier, and Park Attendant. No experience necessary, we provide training for any individuals with no prior experience. For anyone interested in lifeguarding, you may be eligible to have the cost of your certification reimbursed through the Borough.

Applications for positions can be obtained by visiting [www.emmauspa.gov](http://www.emmauspa.gov).



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Continued from Cover

## BOROUGH HALL AND CENTRAL STATION CELEBRATE REOPENING

building on S. 10th Street, while we purchased trailers for the Fire and EMS staff. It was essential that the Fire and EMS staff remained close to the building during construction, as we needed to be able to quickly access our vehicles and equipment during emergencies.

In addition to this work, we have also made minor upgrades to the Police department to expand their evidence room, expand parking, and made some of their space more efficient by changing the layout of several rooms inside the building.

We encourage you to visit and take a tour of our buildings. Please feel free to reach out to us at Borough Hall if you'd like to take a tour.

## VISIT THE 1803 HOUSE IN 2024

**55 South Keystone Avenue, Emmaus PA, near the Seven Generations Charter School**

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 7, Emmaus PA 18049 • [www.1803House.org](http://www.1803House.org)**

The 1803 House is located south of the Emmaus Junction, in the vicinity of the roadway intersection of State Road and Harrison Street. It is a railway switch where the Perkiomen rail system meets the Reading rail system. The 1803 House was constructed where the Reading Railroad intersects the Keystone right of way.



The photo shows the train passing by what was originally the front yard of this historic home. The 1803 House is a historic Pennsylvania Pioneer Home constructed by Jacob Ehrenhardt, Jr, the tenth child of Jacob Ehrenhardt, one of the founders of Emmaus, PA.

Each year, The Friends of the 1803 House has the opportunity to host several EPSD third grade classes. The students are beginning to learn about the community and understand where they live. They learn that they live in a small village named Emmaus. Where is Emmaus they are asked? With the exception of the native Americans, the settlers, because of civil unrest in their European homeland, decided to travel 4,000 miles in large sailing boats west to America. Some of the boats arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and traveled through Penn's Woods (Pennsylvania) to a small village later to be named "Emmaus". We demonstrate the length of the trip to the students by placing two tacks on a small earth globe separated by 4,000 miles so they understand the magnitude of this journey.

A few weeks ago, the President of the United States of America visited the Lehigh Valley, and his first stop was Emmaus. Emmaus is not just a tack on a map now. Emmaus is a diverse group of people that reside, work, play and maintain our "village small". Becoming a destination does not just happen without work and dedication. There are many elements that comprise our village, including its population, its businesses, its institutions, and its government.

### PRAISE TO ALL!

Praise the leaders of Emmaus for discovering and electing to purchase and maintain three historic homes, the Shelter House, 1803 House, and the Knauss Homestead. The Borough of Emmaus is one of a few municipalities owning historic homes. This ownership has evolved into the establishment of a Historical Commission which initially gathers the three Borough historic homes under one set of bylaws and will assist with the administration of each historic home. The boards of the historic homes will continue as they have in the past to fulfill their mission. The commission will assist with the designation and preservation and maintenance of other historic assets in our village.

### PRAISE THE BOARD!

The board of the 1803 House is typically comprised of 15 individuals interested in learning and sharing the history of this pioneer home. New discoveries are uncovered every year. The board has individuals that have many talents to bring history to life. The board promotes the mission of preserving, maintaining, celebrating, educating, and investigating the history of the 1803 House.

The other two historic homes owned by the Borough have similar goals and add to the historical significance of history in Emmaus.

### PRAISE OUR FRIENDS!

Without friends, our organization would be unable to advance its mission. The Friends of the 1803 House include members, elected officials, Borough employees, contributors, donors, visitors, and more. We appreciate the various ways our Friends have supported the mission of the 1803 House. It's exciting to continue the development of a historic home in Emmaus. Emmaus is not just a tack on a map, it is a destination.

The Friends of the 1803 House are currently looking for a volunteer to serve on the Board as secretary. Please visit the 1803 House web site at [www.1803house.org](http://www.1803house.org) for more information on how to volunteer and to become a Friend. We look forward to meeting new friends!

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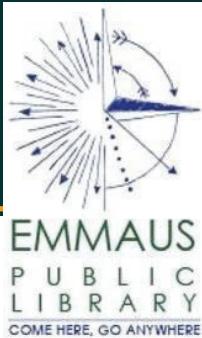
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# Behind Every Great Community is a Great Library!

Emmaus Public Library - 11 E. Main Street, Emmaus, PA 18049

[www.emmauspl.org](http://www.emmauspl.org) 610-965-9284

Hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday & Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



# Spring 2024

## Reading is our Past, Present, and Future



All Events are FREE and open to the public.

Closed May 25-27 for the Memorial Day holiday.



### Monthly Adult Events:

- **Daytime Book Group\*\*** – 1st Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Ask at the front desk about copies of the book!

**March 5th** – The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles

**April 2nd** – Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks

**May 7th** – Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil by John Berendt

**June 4th** – Lady Tan's Circle of Women by Lisa See

- **Evening Book Group\*\*** – 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:45 p.m. Ask at the front desk about copies of the book!

**March 12th** – Code of the Woosters by P. G. Wodehouse

**April 9th** – Squeeze Me by Carl Hiaasen

**May 14th** – You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey: Crazy Stories about Racism by Amber Ruffin.

- **Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group\*\*** – 2nd Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. Join us in person at the library to learn more about caring for someone living with Alzheimer's.

- **Creative Writing** – 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Join us in person for a creative writing group hosted by Pat Johnson, an accomplished and long-time creative writer. The group is open to all who are interested in writing creatively for fun and/or publications. Call or RSVP at the desk!

• **Crochet Group** – Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Drop in for our weekly crocheting club! All skill levels are encouraged to join in. Bring in your current crochet project or get started with advice from more experienced crocheters.

• **Find Your Ancestors\*\*** – 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. Sign up in advance for a 30-minute appointment with Chris to get in-person assistance uncovering your family tree and insight using Ancestry.com.

• **Memoir Writing Group\*\*** – 4th Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. Join renowned author Jerry Waxler and others on a ZOOM video conference to write about your life.

• **Pinterest Party** – 1st Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. This event is first come, first served with all supplies for the first 30 people provided.

• **Notary Public Service\*\*** – Thursdays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The library is offering notary services free of charge via appointment for residents of Emmaus Borough, Macungie Borough, or Upper Milford Township. Please call the library to make an appointment and to indicate the type of notarization requested.

• **Representative Susan Wild's Mobile Office** – 2nd Thursday of the month from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Drop in to meet with a representative from Susan Wild's office for in-person constituent services.

• **EPL Board Meeting** – Open to the public, the Emmaus Public Library Board Meeting is held monthly on the third Tuesday at 4:00 p.m.

  
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## Special Adult Events

• **Financial Literacy\*\*** – Thursday, March 14th at 10:30 a.m. Join a representative from Fulton Bank in Emmaus to learn more about budgeting, investing, borrowing, taxation, and personal financial management.

• **Show and Tell for Adults** – Monday, March 18th at 6:00 p.m. Show & tell isn't just for preschool! Share those small objects with big meaning, whether it's a collectible figurine, hobby item, souvenirs from a trip, or a favorite book. If there's an item that's too big to bring, then bring a photograph. Light refreshments will be available.

**\*\*Please send Adult Event RSVPs to Lauri by email to [eplcollection@cliu.org](mailto:eplcollection@cliu.org) or call 610-965-9284 x210.**

## Monthly Family, Kid & Teen Events

• **Storytime For All Ages** – Weekly on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., March through May. Join Miss Sue for this all-ages spring storytime series in the Margaret Knoll Gardner Lecture Room. We'll have seasonal tales, songs, crafts, and fun!

• **Books 'n' Barks** – 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The Lehigh Valley Therapy Dogs will be at the Emmaus Public Library to listen to kids' reading! Bring your own book or choose from the selection at the library!

• **Teen Writers Group\*\*** – 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Join Miss Sue to write from new prompts and talk about the process of writing-reading aloud not required!

• **Facebook Writing Prompts** – 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Join us on Facebook for a new prompt every 15 minutes. Write about each one or save them for later!

## Special Youth Events

• **Teen Pen & Ink Workshop\*\*** – Thursday, April 18th at 6:00 p.m. Join renowned artist Margie Kavchok and learn to use pen and ink to create your own artistic vision. For 6th grade and up.

• **Parent & Child Workshop\*\*** – A weekly workshop series for families with toddlers; siblings 5 and younger are also welcome to attend! Beginning Tuesday March 5th and running for 5 weeks, each session will feature a new facet of learning with a community partner. Limited to 15 families. Sign up in advance for one, some, or all sessions.

**Please send Kids & Teens Event RSVPs to Miss Sue by email to [eplkids@cliu.org](mailto:eplkids@cliu.org).**

**\*\* Please send Adult Event RSVPs to Lauri by email to [eplcollection@cliu.org](mailto:eplcollection@cliu.org) or call 610-965-9284 x210, and send Kids & Teens Event RSVPs to Miss Sue by email to [eplkids@cliu.org](mailto:eplkids@cliu.org).**



Dustin M. Grim, Supervisor  
Melissa L. Detweiler, Funeral Director  
P: 610.965.2421  
F: 610.967.4346  
E: [schantzfh@hotmail.com](mailto:schantzfh@hotmail.com)  
250 Main Street  
Emmaus, PA 18049  
[www.schantzfh.com](http://www.schantzfh.com)

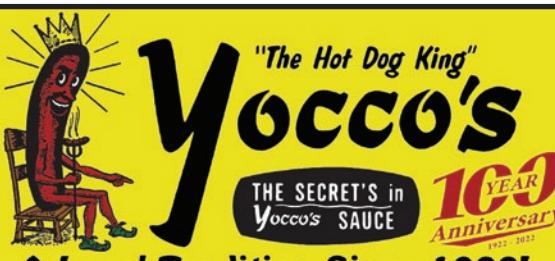


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## The Emmaus Arts Commission



### Sweatin' to the '80s Gnome Auction

This year we reintroduced our gnome auction. Our theme was inspired by the '80s. Gnomes can be found around town and are available for purchase on [emmausarts.org](http://emmausarts.org) on the auction page. Gnomes were designed by local artists who graciously donated their time and talents as a part of our fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who participated!

### Student Film Fest Workshops

In preparation for our 20th Annual Student Film Festival in Fall 2024, we will be hosting workshops through the spring and summer focusing on lighting and sound, storyboard and screenwriting, editing, and production. Local professionals and educators will create additional resources for those interested in learning how to hone their filmmaking craft. More information will be at [emmausarts.org](http://emmausarts.org) as it's available.



### Around Town in Spring

Spring brings a ton of activity for the EAC! We've given our support to the Healing Through the Arts Award in February and the EHS Spring Musical in March. Looking forward, May brings our exhibit at the Emmaus HS Exploratory Career Fair, our "Best in Show" award for the EHS Art Show AP portfolio, monthly art engagement at the Farmers Market, and a number of exciting artistic initiatives around town.

**EAC 17th Annual SNOWBLAST Winter Arts Festival** - This year's SNOWBLAST festival took place in March as a way to say goodbye to winter. We reintroduced the photo contest, themed Frozen in Time, which was open to all students, hobbyists, and professional photographers. Dan's Camera City sponsored gift cards and prizes for our winners. Each year, SNOWBLAST offers a great opportunity to the local artist community as we celebrate vendors and artisans who make their own wares and artwork. We hosted free activities and art engagement opportunities for all ages and stages. JuxtaHub and Jasper Initiative worked with us to add an extra cool feature to our scavenger hunt! Thank you to all our supporters, volunteers, vendors, artists, and community members who worked together to make this festival occur. #snowblast2024

The next round of **Paint-a-Hydrant** will be running in the spring. There is still time to sign up and submit your design and location! Check out [emmausarts.org](http://emmausarts.org) for more info and a registration form. This year we are designing and facilitating a **mural at the Emmaus Community Pool!** If you would like to volunteer to paint, keep an eye out for more info or email us at the address below. We also hope to showcase the beginning of our **children's garden** at the Emmaus Public Library in the spring. We offer volunteer hours for many of our community art initiatives. We partner with many local groups including the EPL, EFM, EHS, JuxtaHub, and the Knauss Homestead. If you are looking to volunteer with the EAC, reach out to [info.emmausarts@gmail.com](mailto:info.emmausarts@gmail.com)! Venmo donations or sponsorships can be sent to @EmmausArts-commission.

The EAC was created by the Emmaus Borough Council to encourage civic participation in the arts through the promotion of the arts within our community. Find out more information on upcoming events and happenings by liking us on Facebook or visiting [emmausarts.org](http://emmausarts.org) or if you are interested in supporting the EAC, donating or contact us about volunteering! We accept applicants of all ages and stages to assist with our events and initiatives; it is a great experience for students.

Share your creativity! Use #emmausartiseverywhere on social media. Please like and share Emmaus Arts on Facebook or follow on Instagram @emmausarts

We'd also like to welcome our newest members: Taylor, Hattie, and Rachel. Thank you for being a part of the EAC! Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month in the new Borough Community room. Check the calendar for info.

**emmaus arts commission**

**HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

- PARTICIPATE • VOLUNTEER
- COLLABORATE • REPRESENT
- SPONSOR • DONATE • SHARE

**LOCATE/CONTACT US**

EMMAUSARTS.ORG  
INFO.EMMAUSARTS@GMAIL.COM  
FB/INSTA @emmausarts

**YEARLY EVENTS**

- SNOWBLAST AND PHOTO CONTEST—EARLY MARCH
- ANNUAL FUNDRAISER 2024-LATE WINTER/EARLY SPRING
- STUDENT FILM FEST PREP WORKSHOPS SPRING-SUMMER
- PAINT-A-HYDRANT—SPRING PAINTING ROUND
- ARTS AT THE MARKET—EMMAUS FARMERS MARKET  
—1ST SUNDAY, MAY-OCT, EMMAUS TRIANGLE
- AWARD EHS AP ART PORTFOLIO "BEST IN SHOW"
- TUNES IN THE TRIANGLE 2ND/4TH FRIDAY  
JUNE-AUGUST LIVE MUSIC
- NATIONAL NIGHT OUT—EARLY AUGUST
- CHALK THE WALK AT EMSP FAREWELL TO SUMMER
- 2024 20TH ANNUAL STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL FALL
- EMMAUS HOLIDAY WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST



# Emmaus Kiwanis Club

**Kiwanis is an international organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world – one child and one community at a time.**

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club has been serving the East Penn community for over 70 years and continues to be actively involved.

**We fundraise** – our annual Pancake Festival, Rose Sale and sale of Wawa coupons enable the club to support our community endeavors. **We serve** – our year ending highlights of 2023 include assisting with the Lehigh Valley Down Syndrome Buddy Walk, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, and participating in Miracle League Halloween along with Macungie's Turkey Trot to benefit local food banks, Emmaus Old-Fashioned Christmas, and sponsoring the Club's 57th annual Charles Rhoads Special Needs Holiday Party.

The Kiwanis Club continuously looks forward to welcoming those who believe in our mission. A business meeting is held on the 1st Wednesday of each month, a program meeting on the 3rd Wednesday, and service or social activities at other scheduled times during the month.

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club is proud to bring our mission to life in our community. **We ACT, We HELP, and We CONTRIBUTE**, participating in and sponsoring service projects that benefit children in our community and throughout the world.

## Mark Your Calendar for our Upcoming Events:

- 72nd ANNUAL COMMUNITY **EASTER EGG HUNT** – Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. (rain or shine). Emmaus Community Park. Free for ages 1 to 10. Hop over and meet the Easter Bunny!



- 49th ANNUAL COMMUNITY **PANCAKE FESTIVAL** – Sunday, June 2, 2024. 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Fire Company #1, 50 S. 6th Street, Emmaus, PA 18049. All the delicious pancakes you can eat! Basket Raffle, Music, Mascots, and more. If you are interested in sponsoring this event, please contact us.



## Kiwanis contributes to the community and our children in the following ways:

- Key Clubs – Emmaus and Parkland High Schools
- Builder's Clubs – Lower Macungie and Orefield Middle Schools
- Scholarships (6) to Emmaus High Seniors
- Childhood Reading and Literacy Programs
- Little Free Library at Emmaus Fire Co 1
- Emmaus Halloween Parade
- Participation in Miracle League Activities
- Participation in The Kindness Project Activities
- Participation in Emmaus Library Activities

- Emmaus National Night Out
- Emmaus Remembrance Garden Clean-Up
- Buckeye Road Clean-Up
- Little Lehigh Stream Clean-Up
- Emmaus Old Fashioned Christmas

- Our Club's Annual Charles Rhoads Special Needs Holiday Party
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- Founding Member of East Penn Food Alliance
- Garden Clean-Up
- Little Lehigh Stream Clean-Up

**We invite YOU to join the Emmaus Kiwanis Club!** The rewards in fellowship, service, and personal satisfaction are great. We would love to have you join us in our dedication to serving children and our community.

Follow us on Facebook and visit our website at [emmauskiwanis.org](http://emmauskiwanis.org) for contact information.



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## Road Projects / S. 2nd Street / CDBG Project

Last year, we shared with you that the Borough has renewed its focus on street work, and we shared several projects that were either planned or already ongoing. We continue that focus into 2024. We are pleased to share with you the planned project list for this year.

We informed you last year that we received \$575,000 in funding to reconstruct S. 2nd Street and improve pedestrian safety by adding ADA curbs and building a sidewalk under the railroad overpass. We planned for that work to be completed by fall of last year. Unfortunately, the project was held up. UGI filed for permits to reconstruct the gas lines prior to our paving project. They started the work, and then, stopped. UGI failed to get timely permits from the railroad to missle their lines under the railroad tracks. Therefore, their project was held up, which in return, has delayed our project. UGI is still struggling to get proper permitting, however, we have informed them that we must complete our project no later than June 30th to be compliant with our grant. If we pave, they will not be permitted to run gas lines for 5 years. UGI has redesigned their plans and will be running new lines all the way from Broad Street to S. 2nd Street. That work is scheduled to be completed by mid-April, which will give us just enough time to complete our project.

In addition to this project, Borough Council shifted \$850,000 in unused bond money at the end of last year for purposes of street work. This means that we will have approximately \$1.2 million in funds for additional road work this year. In addition to the S. 2nd Street project, perspective projects in 2024 include work on Weiders Lane, work on E. Main Street, Glenwood Street, Fernwood from Mountain St. to the Borough line, Buttonwood Street, 16th Street from Shimerville Road to the Borough line, 6th Street from Chestnut to Harrison, Delong / Tilghman Street, Country Heights, Broad from 5th to 10th, 12th from Pennsylvania Ave to W. Jubilee to 13th, and Elm from 5th to 2nd. Some of this work will include milling and paving, some is full depth reconstruction, some is reclamation, and some will be oil & chip work.

In addition to the work the Borough plans to conduct this year, UGI will continue to repave sections of the street as they continue their installation processes as well.

The Borough understands that there are plenty of streets that need work. We cannot guarantee when other streets will be completed, however, we will continue to use our newsletter to inform you of our planned projects as we continue to move forward. We will continue to use the study that was conducted in 2021 as a guideline to prioritize what streets will be addressed in the next several years.



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# **Come One! Come All!**

## **You're cordially invited to join the Ridge Manor Adult Community Center!**

The Ridge Manor Adult Community center is located in the community room at the Ridge Manor high rise located at 333 Ridge Street in Emmaus. We're open weekdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., serving a nutritious meal at lunchtime. The program is available to all those who live in the community and are 60 and over. Why not consider joining us for the meal? However, if not, you're welcome to take advantage of the variety of the free activities we offer, including celebrating birthdays and/or special holidays, a monthly craft, entertainment by



various musical artists, exercises, games, interesting & informative speakers and, of course, lots of laughter and friendship! The Lehigh County Aging and Adult Services encourages you to join the Ridge Manor Community Center. If you're interested, please contact the center manager, Rachel Cubellis, at 610-965-2171 with any questions you may have or to make a reservation for the meal. We hope to see you soon!



### **EMMAUS RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION**

The Emmaus Recreation and Entertainment Commission, in partnership with the Emmaus Main Street Partners and the Emmaus Arts Commission, are currently planning the 2024 Summer Concert Series and Movie Night.

These events are FREE and open to everyone. This year's line-up of concerts will include a combination of genres, including classic rock, country, blue grass, and many others.

A detailed list of dates and times will be published on our website at <https://www.emmausent.com>, or on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/EmmausENT](https://www.facebook.com/EmmausENT). The schedule will be posted in early spring. A detailed calendar of events will also go out in the Borough's summer newsletter and will be available on the Borough's website.

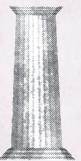
Do you have an idea for an event you would like to see in the Borough?

We would love to hear from you! Please send us an email at [emmausrec@gmail.com](mailto:emmausrec@gmail.com), or attend one of our monthly meetings. The meeting dates/times can be found on the Borough's website at [www.emmauspa.gov](http://www.emmauspa.gov).

Would you like to help plan our events?

The Recreation and Entertainment Commission needs more volunteers to assist us in making these events happen. Please visit our website at [www.emmausent.com](https://www.emmausent.com), for more information on how to become a member.

And, if you'd like to volunteer without joining the Commission, please send an email to [emmausrec@gmail.com](mailto:emmausrec@gmail.com) to explore volunteer opportunities.

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## Police News:

### SAFETY TIPS FOR RUNNERS, WALKERS & BIKE RIDERS

#### Before You Leave:

- Plan your outing. Always tell someone where you are going and when you will return.
- Share your favorite exercise routes with your friends and family.
- Carry identification in case you are injured and cannot communicate.
- Do not wear jewelry or carry cash.
- Wear reflective material.

#### While on the Road:

- Tell a family member or friend where you are going and your anticipated return time.
- Stay alert at all times. The more aware you are, the less vulnerable you are.
- Run or walk with a partner or a dog, especially at night.
- Do not wear headsets, or at least keep the volume to a level as to be able to hear an approaching vehicle or attacker. Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Know your location. Be aware of street signs and landmark locations. Always carry a cell phone and/or be aware of any public telephones. There is never a charge for a 9-1-1 call.
- Exercise in familiar areas. Know which merchants and stores are open.
- Avoid unpopulated areas, deserted streets, and overgrown trails. Avoid poorly lighted areas at night.
- Run clear of parked cars, trees and shrubbery.
- Use discretion in acknowledging strangers. Look directly at others and be observant, but keep your distance and keep moving.
- Run against traffic so you can observe approaching vehicles and pedestrians.
- Trust your intuition about a person or an area. Avoid areas you are unsure of or unfamiliar with.
- Be careful if anyone in a vehicle asks you for directions. If you answer, keep at least a full arm's length from the car.
- If you think you are being followed, change direction and head for open stores, theaters or a lighted house.
- Have your door key ready before you reach your home.

- Call police immediately by dialing 9-1-1 if something appears suspicious or you notice anyone out of the ordinary.

#### Stay Alert:

- Sometimes runners and walkers get lulled into a "zone" where they are so focused on their exercise, they lose track of what's going on around them. This makes runners and walkers more vulnerable to attacks. Walk and run with confidence and a sense of purpose. If you get bored running without music, practice identifying characteristics of strangers and memorizing license tags to keep you from becoming distracted.

#### Running, Walking and Biking in the Evening or Early Morning:

- If you missed the opportunity to exercise during the light of day, but still want to get in a quick three miles before turning in for the night or before the sun rises, head to the security of a well-lighted outdoor track or consider running on an indoor track or tread mill. If you are a walker, consider laps around an indoor shopping mall. If these options are not available, the following is encouraged:
- Make sure people can see you. Think about where you are going and how well-lit it may or may not be. Going out at dusk or at night is dangerous without some type of reflective device(s) on your clothing. Many athletic shoes have reflective qualities built in, but also consider a vest complete with reflective tape.
- Watch the road. Wet or icy spots are considerably harder to see in the dark.

#### Away from Home:

Many people run or walk when they are traveling. Remember, just because you are away from home doesn't mean you can let your guard down when you exercise:

- Check with hotel staff or concierge to find safe routes for exercise. If there is not an acceptable place to exercise outdoors, inquire if the hotel can arrange access to a health club or gym.
- Become familiar with the exercise course before you start.
- Remember the street address of the hotel. Carry a card with your hotel address along with your personal identification(s).
- Leave your room key with the front desk.
- Follow your usual safety rules.

### Crime Prevention Tips Every Homeowner Should Know

No matter where you live, you can protect yourself more effectively by planning ahead. The Emmaus Police Department suggests that homeowners looking to make their home burglar resistant should take a three-fold approach: *deter, detect, and delay*. Here are essential crime prevention tips to help keep your home a less desirable target for burglary:

#### Eyes of a Burglar:

Walk around your home with the eyes of a burglar. Look for weaknesses such as sliding glass doors that could be jimmied off the track, glass that could be broken to gain entry, window unit air conditioners that could be easily removed, and so forth. A burglar

can usually find a way into a house, but you can make it more difficult for them. This starts with knowing your property and potential entry points for a break-in. Take a walk around the outside as well and note what pricey items are in view, tempting would-be burglars.

#### Lock it:

Some homeowners unknowingly create an easy target for burglars by leaving their doors and windows unlocked or open. Remember to lock all doors and windows. Also, remember to lock the door leading from the garage to the house, even if the garage door is down.

#### Don't hide a key:

One day, you forget your keys, and you decide it's a good idea to

*continued on next page...*

continued...

hide one under the doormat or one of those fake rocks. That's a terrible idea. Get rid of that idea right now, and pretend you never even considered it. Instead, give a key to a neighbor. If you absolutely must leave a spare key outside, put it in a combination lockbox.

#### **Mailbox and wall plaques:**

Limit the information that you put on your mailbox. Do not display your whole name on the mailbox or exterior wall plaques. It's easy to look you up, find your phone numbers, maybe even your workplace, and begin to track your movements or assume your identity.

#### **Secure windows and sliding doors:**

Many sliding doors can be popped off the frame, even when locked. Prevent this by placing a strong steel bar or two-by-four in the back groove, which prevents the door from sliding along the groove and opening. Place either an auxiliary lock or pin in the door frame. You can do the same with windows.

#### **Be modest:**

Prevent your home from being a target by tucking away expensive items. Keep cars and bikes locked and/or in the garage. After purchasing a new piece of expensive electronic equipment, dispose of the box directly instead of leaving it next to your trash can, which lets would-be burglars know you have something new that could be pawned or re-sold. Consider keeping expensive jewelry, cash and treasures in a safe deposit box or hidden safe.

#### **Create the illusion you're always home:**

Most burglaries take place when people are not home, particularly during the day, while the victims are at work. Deter burglars by creating the impression that you're always home by leaving on lights, the radio, or the television. If you're going on vacation for a while, don't advertise your absence on social media. Arrange for someone

to pick up the mail, newspapers, mow the lawn, set out trash cans regularly and park in your driveway.

#### **Secure the area surrounding your house:**

Trim bushes and trees to discourage burglars from using them as hiding places. Avoid planting low shrubs in front of windows. You may even consider planting thorny shrubs as an added deterrent and be sure to add lighting outside your home.

#### **Get to know the neighbors:**

Tight-knit communities suffer fewer burglaries because people look out for each other, and strangers stick out.

#### **Install an alarm system:**

Alarm systems are available at a number of different price points, but an effective one should include sensors at entry points, motion detectors inside the house, and a loud outdoor alarm that alerts the entire neighborhood when someone has forced entry.

#### **Routine:**

Change your routine; leave the house at different times and take different routes.

#### **Lighting:**

Check your exterior lighting for broken bulbs, dirty covers, and insufficient coverage. Repair, replace, clean and or install additional lights. Do not give criminals the cover of darkness to commit their criminal activities.

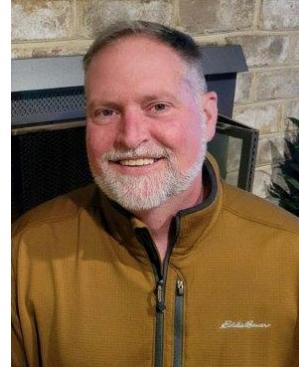
Complying with the above recommended guidelines will not guarantee to make the site criminal proof but may be a deterrent.

**Remember, if you see something, say something by calling the Emmaus Police immediately at (610) 437-5252. We would rather investigate suspicious activity in your neighborhood than investigate a burglary involving you or your neighbors.**



## **No Shave November and Double Down December 2023**

This year, the Emmaus Police Department implemented a facial hair policy permitting well-groomed beards year-round. Our Officers continued to donate and participate in No Shave November and Double Down December to keep this special fundraiser going for the holidays. Officers donated \$50.00 per month to participate. The Emmaus Police Department raised over \$1,400.00, and, once again, all donations went to families in need in the East Penn School District.



## Historical Commission Created

The Borough is excited to announce the creation of a new volunteer Commission. For the past year, the Borough has been working with the members of the Shelter House Society, Friends of the 1803 House, and the Knauss Homestead Preservation Society to form a collective Commission to help oversee the preservation of history throughout the community. The newly formed Commission will help oversee the overall preservation of the three Borough-owned historic houses and will undertake many other initiatives to preserve history within the community. The Commission plans to conduct a historic resource inventory of homes and historic resources in the community. The Commission will also assist the Planning Commission in plan reviews of historical property projects in the community and will serve in an advisory capacity to Borough Council for future historic preservation efforts. They will also be working on education initiatives as well as guidance for individuals who want to undertake projects to preserve their historic properties. The Commission plans to work with the three boards of the historical homes as well as the Historical Society, Emmaus Public Library, and other organizations to ensure a uniform approach to education, events, and preservation in our community.

If you are interested in joining our newly formed Historical Commission, please feel free to contact us, or fill out a volunteer form, which can be found at our website (<https://www.emmauspa.gov/209/Forms-Applications>).

## We Love Our Volunteers! Volunteer Opportunities

The Borough of Emmaus loves its volunteers and has openings on several Boards and Commissions! If you would like to be part of the process and volunteer for your community, we encourage you to explore one of these opportunities:

**Emmaus Arts Commission** – 5 vacancies. This Commission explores different artistic opportunities in the community and sponsors many of our wonderful community events. Some of the recent projects include the Gnome project, painting the picnic tables at the Triangle, the fire hydrant paint project, the Student Film Festival, and the SnowBlast event in March.

**Joint Environmental Advisory Commission - 2 vacancies:** This Advisory Council is a joint board with Upper Milford Township and the Borough of Emmaus. The Council oversees several events and projects throughout the year, including Earth Day, public education events, and different environmental projects such as stream bank restoration work along our creeks. Preferred Experience / Qualifications: environmentalist, knowledge of environmental concerns and issues, event planning.

Time Commitment: One meeting per month in either Emmaus Borough or Upper Milford Township.

**Recreation and Entertainment Commission** – 8 vacancies. This Commission oversees a variety of community events and activities. The Commission oversees the Summer Concert Series, Movies in the Park, and events like car shows, Community Day, and others that the Commission finds beneficial throughout the year. Preferred Experience / Qualifications: event planning, parks and recreational professional, attends community events, fundraising experience.

Time Commitment: minimum of one 1-hour meeting per month. During spring, summer, and early fall, time commitment will be more.

To apply to volunteer, simply download the form at this link, fill it out, send it, and we will be in touch. Miscellaneous Forms | Emmaus Borough, PA ([civicplus.com](http://civicplus.com))



## Curbside Yard Waste Collection

The Borough's waste hauler, Whitetail Disposal, does not collect yard waste. Yard waste pick-up is available through the Emmaus Public Works Department.

From April 1st through October 21st, yard waste will be collected by Public Works personnel on **Mondays** except holidays (Monday, May 27th and Monday, September 2nd - Curbside yard waste will be picked up on Tuesday).

There is a **5-bag limit** and yard waste must be placed at the curb in approved yard waste bags. **More than 5 bags will be left at the curb.** The Borough encourages anyone with large quantities of bags to utilize our Compost Site located on Klines Lane.

Yard waste is limited to organic biodegradable materials such as grass, leaves, hedge trimmings, leafy plants and small sticks and twigs. Separate grass, twigs, and hedge trimmings into different bags. Bags contaminated with stones, trash, mulch, or dirt will not be collected. Material not separated properly will not be collected. **Bags exceeding 50 lbs. will not be collected.**



There are two ways to contact the Borough to have your bags collected.

**Phone:** 610-965-9288, after hours, please leave a message, or

**Email:** [pweiant@emmauspa.gov](mailto:pweiant@emmauspa.gov)

Please be sure to leave your address and the number of bags. Bags will only be collected for those residents that either call or email. Contact must be made by 11:00 a.m. on the day of pick-up.

# Refuse and Recycling Information



## Refuse and Recycling Can Requirements

In April 2019, the Borough of Emmaus adopted Ordinance No. 1088 which states that “all residential properties utilizing curbside solid waste collection, shall be required to utilize containers that shall be durable, water-tight, and made of metal or plastic. Individual plastic bags and loose waste shall be prohibited from curbside collection. The size of each container shall not exceed a ninety six-gallon capacity.”

## Recycling Requirements

**RESIDENTS MUST USE A CONTAINER FOR RECYCLABLES.** **DO NOT PUT YOUR RECYCLABLES IN A BAG!** If you need a recycling sticker for your recycling bin, they are available by stopping at Borough Hall, 28 S. 4th Street, Emmaus, PA 18049, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In addition, if your recycling is contaminated, or includes items that are not acceptable, according to the list below, all of it will be **REJECTED**. You will receive a sticker from Whitetail detailing the reason why your recycling was rejected. Because of the new recycling requirements at a state, federal, and international level, this policy will be strictly followed.

## Single Stream Recycling

No sorting needed! Everything goes into one container, but please **don't bag your recyclables**. Recycling must be clean and should be loose in your can.

The following **are acceptable** recyclables:

- Paper, cardboard, newspaper, and flat board
- Empty aerosol cans
- Junk mail, manila & brown folders, glossy & colored inserts
- Plastics #1-7
- Magazines & Telephone books
- Bi metal
- Tin
- Steel containers and aluminum cans
- Glass bottles & Jars

Whitetail does not accept demolition or construction material including drywall, bricks, lumber, or shingles, hazardous waste including radioactive, reactive, toxic, ignitable, corrosive, pathological, or acidic, and tires.

## E-Waste Recycling Schedule

### E-Waste Recycling

Whitetail Disposal provides a 30-yard container at 33 Klines Lane, March through November, specifically for E-Waste collection. The E-Waste Dumpster is available on the **2nd Monday of the month** from Noon until the dumpster is full. The site is closed from December through February.

Whitetail Disposal employees provides manpower to assist residents with disposal of these items.

#### Guidelines for dropping off items:

- Items will only be accepted on designated days during designated hours.
- Residents visiting the site shall show the attendant their identification signifying that they are a Borough resident. Items from outside the Borough of Emmaus will not be accepted.

- Residents can drop off three electronic devices at no charge, with a maximum of 2 TV's per resident. Over two televisions will incur a fee of \$50 per television.



#### NO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ARE ACCEPTED.

#### The 2024 E-Waste Recycling Dates

|              |               |                 |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| • March 11th | • June 10th   | • September 9th |
| • April 8th  | • July 8th    | • October 14th  |
| • May 13th   | • August 12th | • November 11th |

## Bulk Items – You must contact Whitetail Disposal for all bulk item pick-ups.

Please call Whitetail Disposal at 610-936-9967 or email [Emmaus@whitetaildisposal.com](mailto:Emmaus@whitetaildisposal.com) for any questions or concerns on bulk items and to arrange a pick-up. One bulk item per week will be collected.

To arrange a pickup contact Whitetail Disposal no less than 24 hours **PRIOR** to your regular pick-up day. Identify yourself as a Borough of Emmaus resident. Whitetail Disposal will instruct you on collection of your item(s).

- Each Bulk item is limited to no more than **70 LBS**.
- **Mattresses and box springs must be wrapped in plastic. Toilets must be bagged.**
- Construction materials will **NOT** be collected.
- Appliances containing Freon will **NOT** be collected.

For any questions or for additional information, please visit <https://www.whitetaildisposal.com/municipality/emmaus-borough/>



**Whitetail Disposal**

## Refocusing on our Parks

In the past several years, the Borough has refocused its attention on our parks system. The Borough has 10 parks in our community, as well as wonderful trail connections across the community and up through South Mountain. A 2018 National Recreation and Park Association study showed that 9 in 10 Americans agree that parks and recreation is an important local government service. 78% indicated that they want to increase parks and recreation funding and 68% stated that they visit local parks and / or recreation facilities at least once per month. In fact, 85% of Americans consider high-quality park and recreation amenities important factors when choosing a new place to live. Over the past years, as budgets have tightened, the Borough has lost focus on funding our parks.

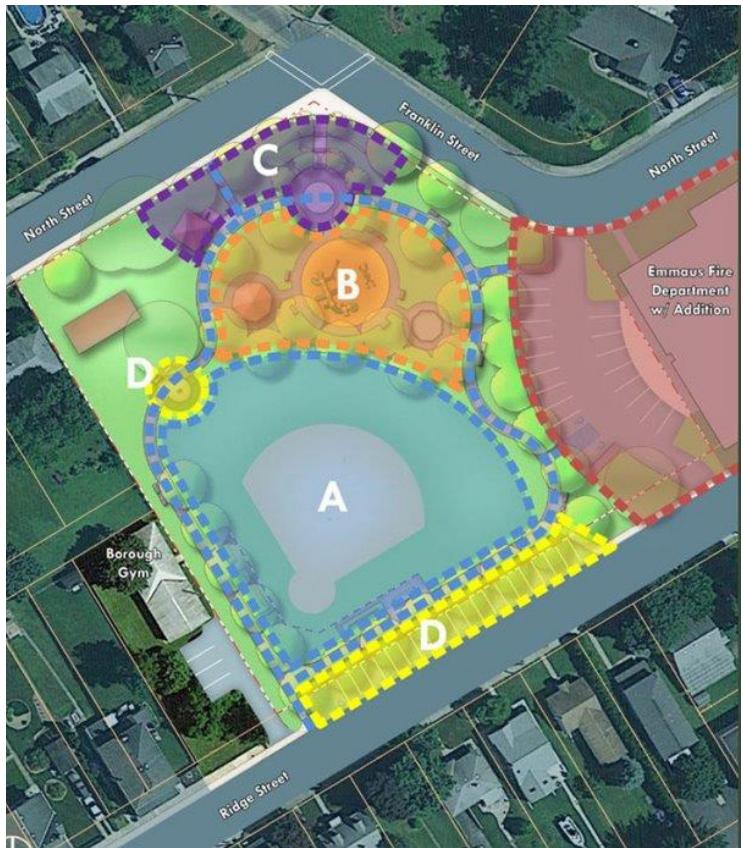
However, knowing that we needed to refocus our attention of updating our infrastructure and improving our recreational offerings to the community, in 2018, we received two grants to conduct several comprehensive studies to examine our swimming pool, all Borough parks, our walking trails, and the greenways throughout the Borough. The study included several years of public processes, surveys, and design work, as well as master park plans for Lions Park and Boroline Park. Upon the conclusion of the study, Borough Council's Parks and Recreation Committee worked with staff to begin executing the plans. First, we changed our policies for new residential development. All new residential developments that are assessed a recreation fee now has the fee attached directly to the park closest to the development. This has resulted in \$30,000 in funds being dedicated to Arch Street Park, and \$148,000 in funding towards Furnace Dam Park. Arch Street Park will receive new playground equipment this summer. Last fall, we began to install the Borough's very first pickleball court at Furnace Dam. It will be completed, with fencing around the court, this spring. In addition, the Borough has other plans for the park, and we have recently completed a study of the dam itself, to ensure its structural integrity and maintenance needs. We also received a \$318,400 grant from PA DCNR to reconstruct Lions Park according to the Master Park Plan. The project includes relocating the old baseball field, adding new park equipment, bathrooms, a walking trail, trees and shrubbery, and a small splash pad. The project will begin in 2024 and will occur in phases over the next several years.

Because of safety issues, the Borough had to tear down the playground equipment at Laura Street Park last year. In partnering with the residents in the neighborhood, we will be installing approximately \$30,000 in new equipment in the park this year to replace the equipment that was removed.

In addition to this, we have replaced many of the amenities at the Community Park swimming pool, including the sliding board, and diving board. We added a climbing wall, zip line, and basketball hoops as well. This year, we will be completely replacing the roof of the pool house and will be adding ADA access to both sides of the concession stand. While there is a lot more work to do, improvements at the pool will be phased in over time. We are currently considering installing a pickleball court in the park as well.

Lastly, we are partnering with Emmaus Youth Association on several projects, as they plan to install a new building for baseball and softball indoor activities. We are also partnering with them, as we anticipate receiving a considerable amount of funding from an upcoming residential development to make improvements to the ballfields on South 4th Street.

The Borough plans to continue to focus its attention on parks and recreation in the future. There are some other very exciting projects that are in the works within the community that you will learn about in the future, including the Knauss Homestead work and other planned historical home improvements, and improvements at the Remembrance Garden. We are proud of our partnerships with our wonderful community groups such as the Kiwanis Club who recently donated funds to repair a walking bridge, the Lions Club who have reconstructed the flagpole at the park, the newly formed Emmaus Community Foundation who is working to raise funds for projects, and the Emmaus Rotary Club who is currently considering a project in celebration of their upcoming anniversary. We are also partnering with the Wildlands Conservancy, as they continue to plan to connect the South Mountain trail through the edge of the Borough, towards the Shelter House.



## The Emmaus Garden Club – Over the Backyard Fence

The Emmaus Garden Club is excited to announce that there is a NEW location and time for its meetings. Beginning on March 5, 2024, all meetings will be held at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, 418 Elm Street, Emmaus, 18049 at 11:30 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month from March to November. There will be light refreshments, a program, and horticultural and design tournaments. Guests are always welcome at Emmaus Garden Club meetings, and you don't need to live in Emmaus to be a member.

New officers were recently installed for 2024-2025. The new officers are President- Chris Rader, President-elect- Lynne Yaeger, Vice President- Diane Quinn, Treasurer-Kathy Longenecker, Recording Secretary Business Meetings-Susanne Dussoulas, Recording Secretary-Board meetings-Denise Mazar, and Corresponding Secretary-Susan Stets.



### Upcoming Programs:

**April 2**, learn "How to Plan a Cutting Garden."

**May 7**, "The Magic of Botanical Arts." Learn how common plants such as grass, twigs, and seeds can be transformed into exquisite creations. Never buy a tool that you haven't handled first and "Avoid Tool Envy".

Imagine you are at the Philly Flower Show. You are checking out the vendors when you come across a spade. This is not just any spade, mind you. The scoop of this spade has jagged teeth along the sides-perfect for digging up those pesky redbud seedlings that keep infesting your yard and gardens. It is pricey. You don't buy it. Back home you suffer "buyer's remorse". You try to find one locally, with no luck. You look online and there it is in all its vicious toothiness! You press "buy now". You can hardly wait for it to come, but when it does, you find it is too heavy and clumsy for you to use.... another decoration for the garage wall.

If you have any Questions or would like more information about the Emmaus Garden Club, please call Ellen at 610 928 3713, visit our website [www.emmausgardenclub.com](http://www.emmausgardenclub.com) or like us on Facebook.

### Compost Site Hours of Operation

**Closed in observance of Holidays: 3/29, 5/27, 9/2, 11/11, 11/27, and 11/29**

**OPEN: March 18th to November 30th**

Monday and Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (No Loading) • Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. to dusk (No Loading)

Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Loading until 3:30 p.m.)

**We only accept organic yard waste. No lumber, root balls with dirt, garbage, dirt, building materials, etc. is allowed.**

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# THE KNAUSS HOUSE

152 E. Main St. (rear), Emmaus, PA 18049 • [www.knausshomestead.org](http://www.knausshomestead.org)

Knauss Homestead Preservation Society

It seems like only yesterday that we were celebrating the holidays and getting ready to settle in for a long winter's nap. Yet here we are welcoming spring and the beauty that it brings. Our early settlers depended entirely on Mother Nature to help them know when to sow seeds for their spring and summer crops. They paid close attention to the signs around them, such as the swelling of deciduous buds on the dormant growth of the trees and shrubs, the emergence of groundhogs and chipmunks from their warm burrows, or the welcoming site of winter crocus peeking through the snow-covered sunny slopes. There is however, one very ingenious idea that predates all of those signs. Our early settlers would hammer a nail into the windowsill of a southern exposed window and the lengthening of the shadow would indicate the increase of daylight.

The Knauss Homestead looks forward to the arrival of spring and the uptick of activities at the Homestead. Mark your calendars for a day of bingo on Sunday, April 14th at Emmaus Fire Company #1. Doors will open at 11:00 am., and the first number will be called at 1:00 p.m. Join us for a fun day filled with the chance to win money, beautiful gift baskets, and gift cards.

On June 8th, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the Homestead will host its third annual "Strawberry Festival" with food, entertainment, craft vendors, horse drawn wagon rides, and of course strawberries from Hausman's Fruit Farm.

The Homestead looks forward to the start of a long-anticipated project with the construction of two handicapped restrooms in the "Wheelwright Shop." Sebastian Knauss was a wheelwright and it is our hope to have a small museum in this building. If you have any antiques that you would like to donate, please let us know.

With our ever-growing events, the Knauss Homestead is in need of more volunteers. Please visit the Knauss Homestead's website at [www.knausshomestead.org](http://www.knausshomestead.org) for more information on becoming a volunteer and for updates, continuing information, and ways to support this important part of Emmaus' history. Also, please be sure to follow us on Facebook at the Knauss Homestead.



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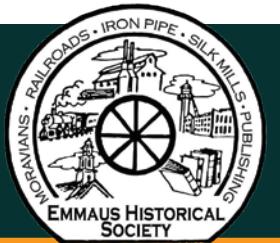
**3333 W Emmaus Avenue | Emmaus | 610 965-2824 | [efbutzins.com](http://efbutzins.com) | [efbutzins@rcn.com](mailto:efbutzins@rcn.com)**

# EMMAUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*A Message from the President*

218 Main St., Emmaus, PA 18049, 610-966-6591

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every Saturday as well as extended hours during special events.



## A Quick Review of 2023 and A Look Forward into 2024

By Jeanne Harakal, President, Emmaus Historical Society

As I look back at the year 2023, I am amazed at how much interaction we have had with the community in so many ways: from the programs (we even recorded a few and have them on our YouTube channel), to the special events like the Heritage Festival and Old-Fashioned Christmas, to the community events like the Jefferson School Fall Festival, and the Dedication and Re-opening of the Central Fire Station after extensive renovations, to the Third Grade Education Program, to private tours and genealogy, to fundraising events and bus trips, and to a new joint venture with Emmaus Historical Society member interviews for the 9th Grade Experience podcast at Emmaus High School! So many activities in just one year! I am so thankful to so many who have donated their time, energies, and monies to result in such an exceptional year! I look forward to more of the same in 2024 as we continue to plan for this fresh new year.

The programs for 2024 have already been scheduled and are included on a separate insert with a calendar of all of the dates and titles of the 2024 programs. There is, again, a good variety of programming with something of interest for everyone. The February, March, April and May programs go from historic barns to the 1803 House dig, to Jefferson School history, to TV shows of the 1950s. All quite different topics!

In 2023, the Historical Society also took some steps forward on two Capital projects that have been planned for a while. In 2023, a design was developed for the installation of a new HVAC system that will allow for room specific controls of heat, air conditioning and humidity. This will allow for the conservation of energy since the Society has operated with only one thermostat for the entire building over the past years. It will also allow for climate control in rooms where the collections are stored. This has been an item on the checklist of working towards a better preservation environment. Four bids from contractors were obtained and one was chosen to complete the work starting at the end of March. Prior to the installation of the HVAC project, all existing old wiring in the building will be replaced and additional electrical service will be installed. The electrical upgrades began in January and will go through to at least the end of February. For this reason, starting on January 20th, the museum has been closed to visitors. We also need to let everyone know that due to the renovations, a decision has been made not to participate in the Emmaus Community Yard Sale this year due to the inability to store and sort so many items during the renovations and installations. We will not be accepting any yard sale donations but will continue to accept memorabilia donations to the museum. Please call the office at 610-966-6591 to make arrangements. We are very excited about this work but also know that it will cause disruption for our members and visitors due to the renovations and apologize for that.



After the electrical upgrades and HVAC installation are completed, the next Capital project will be to continue to move forward with upgrades and renovations on the garage which is set up as a satellite museum where large items of the collection can be exhibited. New windows will be installed later this year as well as a few other items to be discussed once the contractor has been chosen. The Society has begun the process of researching contractors for the potential renovations needed to move forward with the interior of the garage.

2024 is going to be another very busy year of programs, special events, Capital projects, “fun” fundraisers and community outreach and education events. We have lots to do and to look forward to. Please join in the fun when you feel called to volunteer or to participate in any offering that meets your fancy!

Always yours in history,

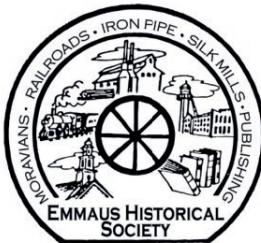
Jeanne



# EMMAUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2024 SPECIAL EVENTS

FOR INFORMATION: [WWW.EMAUSHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.EMAUSHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG)

## SAVE THE DATE!!



### Fundraising Events

Lucky Bucks BINGO!

St. John's Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 10, 2024

(Doors Open at 1pm)

Matching Tip Event at Yersey Brewing

Saturday, June 15 - 12pm to 9pm

### Bus Trips

Milk & Honey Express Train Ride

May 9, 2024

Daniel - Sight & Sound Theater

August 22, 2024

Juke Box Jive - Magic and Wonder

October 15, 2024

White Christmas - Dutch Apple Dinner Theater

November 8, 2024

For Bus Trip Tickets Call Nancy Matika, 610-967-5715

### Special Yearly Events

Passport to History

July 19-21, 2024

Emmaus Heritage Day Festival

September 21, 2024

Historical Society Members Wine & Cheese Social

December 6, 2024

Emmaus Old Fashioned Christmas

December 7, 2024

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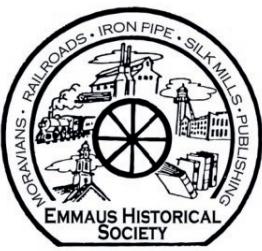
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# EMMAUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2024 SPECIAL EVENTS

FOR INFORMATION: [WWW.EMAUSHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.EMAUSHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG)

| MARK YOUR CALENDAR!  | VISIT SATURDAYS 10AM TO 4PM  | FEBRUARY 15   |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Monthly Programs are held at 7pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, Emmaus, PA<br/>FREE to the Public!<br/>Members and Non-members Welcome</p>                |  <p>610-966-6591</p> | <p>Old Barns of Emmaus and the Surrounding Areas of Lehigh County<br/>Presented by Greg Huber</p> |
| MARCH 21   | APRIL 17   | MAY 15  |
| <p>Dig This: the Archaeological Dig at the 1803 House Explained...<br/>Presented by Professor David Small, Jill Cramer, Pat Merkowsky and Marian Schneck</p> | <p>The History of Jefferson School, Part 1<br/>Presented by Jim Schwar</p>                             | <p>Kids' TV Shows We Watched on Channel 3, 6 and 10 in the 1950s<br/>Presented by Bill Barto</p>  |
| JUNE 19  | SEPTEMBER 18   | OCTOBER 16  |
| <p>Annual Member Picnic held at Emmaus Community Park<br/>5:30 p.m.</p>  | <p>The History of Jefferson, Part 2<br/>Presented by Jim Schwar</p>                                    | <p>The "Corner" Stores of Emmaus<br/>Presented by Andrew Kerstetter</p>                           |
| NOVEMBER 20  | DECEMBER 18  |              |
| <p>A Virtual Walking Tour of God's Acre, the first cemetery in Emmaus<br/>Presented by Jeanne Harakal</p>  | <p>Annual Christmas Potluck with Entertainment<br/>5:30 p.m.</p>                                       |   |

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# Shelter House News

601 South 4th Street, Emmaus, PA • <https://shelterhouseemmaus.org/>

## EAST PENN STUDENTS VISIT SHELTER



Emmaus, Pennsylvania was founded as a closed Moravian Village beginning in the 1730s. What that means is that anyone wanting to become a resident would be assigned a lot number on which to build a log structure, plant a garden, keep some poultry, and abide by the rules of the village – rules established by the Moravian Church. Important, too, was that the potential resident must be able to present a skill of great need: blacksmith, cooper, tanner, carpenter, etc.

During its long and storied history, Emmaus played an important part in the Moravian mission to travel to the interior and introduce brotherly love and fellowship and hope. Under the leadership of Count Zinzendorf of Moravia, the early religious settlers had already settled and built homes and places of worship in Bethlehem. Emmaus was a suitable stopping place for the pilgrims who would penetrate what was the frontier at the time.

German Lutherans had already come to this area to buy land and start a new life. Among those German Lutherans were Sebastian Knauss, Jacob Ehrenhard, Andre Gehring, and others. These men befriended the traveling Moravians and offered them respite and land to build a place of worship right here in Emmaus. The original location is said to be just behind the present Moravian Church parking lot in a copse of trees just before the railroad. These men appear in Shelter House narrative of Emmaus history.\*

So as the story goes on, others, either relatives or friends of those already here in what eventually became Lehigh Valley and Emmaus in particular (1761), yearned to come to the new world, find freedoms, and bask in what they dreamed of being the biblical land of milk and honey.

And so, they came. They were many that were residents of Alsace-Lorraine, others that were from the interior of Germany. They made enormous sacrifices to leave their homes and friends, and sometimes their families, to embrace adventure and the love of freedom.

Many of the pilgrims who eventually found their way to what is now Emmaus sailed on the good ship Saint Andrew, often it took weeks of hardship traveling in steerage. Many passengers were indentured, meaning someone else had paid for their passage and upon arriving, in

our case, Port of Philadelphia, that passenger, if they survived the trip, was indentured to whoever paid their passage. That passenger had to work as house maid, gardener, ditch digger, etc. until the passage had been paid off.

There was much debauchery and exploitation of those desiring nothing more than freedom in a new land with ample space, wildlife, natural resources, and sleek river trout in the sylvan streams.

And so, when we invite the East Penn students to hear about the early settlers, we ask the young visitors, "How did the settlers get here to build their log house?" They look wide-eyed at each other. "They rode their horses," some say. We answer, 'but there were few horses in 1734.' Horses were very expensive, and the new settlers had with them only what they could carry.

From the Port of Philadelphia to this Shelter House site is approximately 55 miles. And they walked. The women may have been able to carry a blanket, some seeds, maybe a needle and some thread. The men probably had a carpenter's chest which would have contained some tools needed to fell trees and build a log structure. The children, if there were any, would have helped carry any incidentals, such as wooden buckets and shovels.

We know from research that the trail the settlers took was partially along the Lenape walking trails. We also might conjecture that many Lenape were friendly to our settlers whose destination was to be here in what is now Emmaus.

So, our visitor children ask, 'How did they buy stuff?' We answer, "They had no stores, no Home Depot, no Walmart." We then offer them lessons on how early settlers bartered: If one settler knew how to dig a well and another settler knew how to build a log structure, they traded skills, and skill became a medium of exchange. Only then did we talk about how money was practically unknown. Each provincial area in the Colonies had its own money which was sometimes hand-drawn, and in each state these monies had different values. The young students who visit Shelter House scratch their heads at this bit of colonial information. "What? No money," they say.

The Shelter House (c.1734) is a valuable part of Emmaus history along with Knauss Homestead, Jacob Ehrenhard 1803 House, Emmaus Historic Society, Emmaus Moravian Church, God's Acre, and all those devoted to our rich and indelible history.

\*Ehrenhard, Knauss and Gehring converted to the Moravian Church and then donated land for the village of Emmaus.



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## Emmaus Youth Association (EYA) News

"Our spring softball and baseball seasons have begun. Come out and watch some games and cheer on the EYA players!"

Summer basketball registration will be opening in mid to late March. Visit [www.eyasports.org](http://www.eyasports.org) to sign up.

Our travel / tournament softball program will be expanding again this year. We will be offering 10u, 12u, 14u, and 18u. We need some volunteer coaches to make this program successful. Email [softball@eyasports.org](mailto:softball@eyasports.org) for more information.



Scan the QR code to follow us on Facebook and stay up to date with all the latest news and information."



## A Message from the Emmaus Board of Health

### SPRING FORWARD SAFELY

Daylight Savings time is here and 3 out of 4 Americans are participating in the annual purge that is *spring-cleaning*. It is important to undertake this task safely to keep your spring-cleaning injury and incident free. Below are many ways to do this.

#### Clean your grill:

- Check your grill for damage and debris. Cleaning your grill will prevent an unwanted grill fire as the hardened grease makes it easy for a fire to start and ruin your cookout or create a more devastating situation.

#### Change air filters on your HVAC system:

- Indoor Air: Change the air filters in your HVAC system. This will make your system run more efficiently and cut down on dust, allergens and irritants that may lurk in your home.

#### Slips/Trips & Falls:

- While cleaning out closets and clutter, always keep stairs, steps, landings, and floors clear of debris and objects.
- Wear closed toe, non-slip shoes.
- Never carry loads you cannot see over.
- Always try to keep one hand free to hold onto a banister or railing.

#### Ladders:

- Use the right ladder for the job. It is important to choose a ladder that has the proper load capacity for the job.
- Inspect the ladder before and after use.
- Set the ladder up correctly.
- Climb and descend the ladder with caution.
- Make sure the ladder is on a level surface and securely locked in place before ascending.



- If using a straight ladder make sure it is flat against something (e.g., wall) and on a level surface.
- In addition, have a spotter to hold the ladder in place as you ascend.

#### Chemicals:

- Always read the label for content, risks to look out for, and what personal protective equipment needs to be worn. Even products advertised as "green" or "natural" may contain ingredients that can cause health problems.
- Never use gasoline to clean things. Do not mix products together e.g., mixing ammonia and Clorox creates a toxic gas called chloramine which can cause respiratory problems, chest pain and/or death.
- Give natural products a try. Soap and water often do the trick. Water and vinegar clean glass well. Baking soda is good for scrubbing.
- Wear personal protective equipment such as masks for extra dusty areas and products that irritate the nose, throat, and lungs. These pollutants are especially dangerous for those with Asthma or a chronic lung disease such as COPD. Wear gloves to protect your hands.
- Always ventilate the space by opening doors and/or windows when using chemical products.

Resources: Occupational Safety & Health Administration, National Fire Protection Association, American Lung Association, Consumer Price

## Call Before You Dig

If you are planning on digging, call Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. (POCS) three business days before you dig at 1-800-242-1776 or 8-1-1. The call center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year. PA Act 287 as amended requires excavators as well as private landowners to call POCS three days prior to any type of digging occurring with powered equipment. Mark your excavation area in white paint before calling with a dig notification.

By calling, you allow the facility owners the opportunity to locate and mark their underground facility in advance of the planned excavation (gas and liquid pipelines will mark underground facilities using yellow stakes, flags, or paint).



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

## Grass, Weed & Tree Trimming Regulations

During the year, especially as the growing season begins, the Borough receives complaints regarding the lack of property maintenance and uncut grass. As a reminder, a property owner is responsible for the property from the front curbline to the rear curbline. Please help keep our community beautiful by cutting and/or removing the weeds at your curb.

The Borough of Emmaus Ordinance 675, Chapter 10, Part 3, Section 301, states that weeds and grass may not exceed 6" in height. After given proper notification by way of a door hanger or a certified letter, and failure to cut the grass and/or weeds within the allotted time frame of notification, the property owner may be subject to a fine of up to \$300 per offense per day, together with costs for removing, spraying, trimming, or cutting by the Borough or its contractor. A delinquent property owner is also responsible for associated costs, plus administrative and legal fees as permitted by law.

The Borough of Emmaus Ordinance 675, Chapter 25, Part 1, Section 103, requires that any tree on private property or along the streets or alleys must have a clear height of 14 feet over the street and 10 feet over the sidewalk. Also, any trees, shrubs or hedges located in the clear sight triangle cannot exceed 2 feet above grade. After given proper notification by way of a door hanger, or a certified letter, and failure to trim overgrown trees within the allotted time frame of notification, the property owner may be subject to a fine of up to \$300 per offense per day, together with costs of trimming by the Borough or its contractor. A delinquent property owner is also responsible for associated costs, plus administrative and legal fees as permitted by law.

The Borough appreciates the phone calls that are received concerning property maintenance issues, however, in order to serve our residents properly, we ask that a return phone number is given for follow-up. You can also report a complaint via the Borough's website at [www.emmauspa.gov](http://www.emmauspa.gov). On the home page, click on How Do I, then click on Report a Concern/Issue.



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## President Biden Visits the Borough of Emmaus

On January 12th, our community hosted a visit from the President of the United States. No matter what your political affiliation is, this was a historic moment for our community. President Biden visited three of our local downtown businesses to discuss small business success and challenges that they face, before he traveled across the county to the Mack Southside Fire Station and Training Academy in Allentown.

While it was a logistical challenge and inconvenient for many people, we were honored to have a visit from a sitting President for the first time in our community. We would like to thank our Police Department, Fire Department, EMS, and Public Works Departments for their hard work in coordinating logistics and working with state, federal, and other local agencies to make the Presidential visit in our community as smooth as possible.



## Sewer Lateral Inspection Program

In January 2019, Emmaus Borough Council adopted an Ordinance to require building sewer and lateral inspections any time a house is transferred or sold within the Borough. This was because of the PA DEP and EPA mandates requiring the community to eliminate the stormwater that is hitting the Allentown sewer plant. The Borough continues to invest millions of dollars into improving and removing stormwater from the main system, however, this is a key component of the infiltration and inflow that is hitting the system. The Ordinance took effect April 2019.

Ordinance No. 1185 requires anyone that is selling or transferring their property to have their sewer lateral inspected via a camera. Any licensed plumber who has the capability to conduct camera inspections may be used, or the property owner can contract the Borough to conduct the inspection. An electronic copy of the camera inspection as well as a report with the findings must be submitted to the Zoning Officer at Town Hall. If the result of the inspection demonstrates that water is infiltrating the system through deficiencies such as cracks or breaks in the line, or via root intrusions or other systematic failures, the property owner must fix or replace the building sewer or lateral prior to the sale of the property. The Borough monitors property transfers through data submitted by Lehigh County each month. If an individual fails to have the inspection completed, and the Borough receives the property transfer information, penalties are applied including fines.

The average inspection costs approximately \$225 - \$300. If there are serious issues with the sewer lines, it could cost much more, however, it is important to note that if there are issues with your lines, it means that pollutants are seeping into the ground and leaching into our potable water systems and / or rain water is hitting the sewer system, helping to cause overflows during heavy rains into the Lehigh River, meaning raw sewage is hitting the river as well. For these reasons, as well as due to the state and federal mandates, we need to ensure that the entire sewer system is working as it is designed and we are doing our part to eliminate these issues.

To read more about the Sewer Lateral requirements, please visit [Borough of Emmaus, PA TESTING, INSPECTION, REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF BUILDING SEWERS AND SEWER LATERALS \(ecode360.com\)](http://Borough of Emmaus, PA TESTING, INSPECTION, REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF BUILDING SEWERS AND SEWER LATERALS (ecode360.com))

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## Borough Voters Elect New Council Members

On Tuesday, November 7, 2023, the Borough of Emmaus voters went to the polls and elected three new Council members and reelected one member. On January 2, 2024, the Honorable Judge Douglas Reichley administered the Oath of Office to incumbent Council Member Chad Balliet, and to newly elected Council Members Nathan Brown, Christopher Hoenscheid, and Katherine Watt.

Mr. Brown is a familiar face as he previously served on Borough Council from 2008-2020. Mr. Brown grew up in Pottsville, PA but has lived in the Borough with his wife, Liz, for the past 23 years. He has been a Project Manager for Fire & Life Safety Equipment for over 20 years. On his days off, you can find Nate and his wife enjoying biking, hiking, and spending time outside with his dog, Nala. Mr. Brown will serve as Chair of the Health, Sanitation & Codes Committee and will serve on the Community Relations, Planning & Development Committee, and the Parks & Recreation Committee. Mr. Brown looks forward to continuing the forward progress of the Borough.



Mr. Hoenscheid is a Lehigh Valley native and has lived in Emmaus for 18 years. He has been an elementary school teacher in the Northampton Area School District for the past 25 years. Chris and his wife, Deanne, have been married for 28 years, and their son, Ian, attends Emmaus High School. They are all avid bowlers, and they also enjoy hitting the hiking and biking trails, traveling, and the beach. Chris is excited to serve the residents of Emmaus and will serve as Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee as well as serve on the Community Relations, Planning & Development Committee, and the Public Works Committee.

Mrs. Watt is a Lehigh Valley native who has lived in Emmaus for the last 10 years. She has a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Cornell University and works in data analysis and reporting. She has been heavily involved in the Jefferson Elementary PTC and looks forward to engaging even more with the Emmaus Community during her time on Council. Mrs. Watt will serve as Chair of the Community Relations, Planning & Development Committee, and will serve on the Budget & Finance Committee and the Public Safety Committee.

Mr. Balliet has just begun his second term on Borough Council and was elected Council President in 2024. Since 2004, he and his wife Heather have called the Borough of Emmaus "home." He and his wife own South Mountain Cycle and Cafe downtown and understand very well the give and take needed to run a successful business. Chad is strongly rooted in the community and looks forward to helping the Borough grow and progress into the future. In 2023, he helped to launch the Emmaus Community Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit organization. He and his wife are also happily raising the next future Green Hornet, their young son, Melvin. Melvin is Chad's pride and joy! In his free time, he enjoys spending time outdoors. Chad looks forward to continuing to serving the community.

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# Sundays at the Emmaus Farmers' Market

JOIN US JANUARY-APRIL FROM 10:00 A.M.- NOON

Did you know the Emmaus Farmers' Market runs all winter long into spring? This year we have our biggest winter vendor lineup yet of 25 vendors! Fourth Street will remain closed for the market, so our regular season vendors are in their same spots all year long! Join us January-April from 10:00 a.m.- noon at the Triangle on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. Thank you to all our customers who venture out during the cold months and keep us running all year long, RAIN, SNOW or SHINE!

This spring we celebrate our 21st season in Emmaus, and our 5th season at the beautiful Triangle. The Farmers' Market regular season kicks off on May 5th! Live music will return with local favorite The Emmaus Public Singing Society and over 30 vendors. In May you can walk to the Triangle every Sunday for your weekly produce and meats, enjoy the weather with locally inspired foods & coffee, live music, and meet up with

friends. We are outdoors at the Triangle and continue to bring you local fruits & vegetables, a variety of dairy products, bread & baked goods, raw honey, coffee, herbs, locally grown organic hemp & CBD products, pasture raised meats & eggs!

You will also find many local non-profits to support such as the Emmaus Arts Commission. We are always in need of 501(c) non-profits at the Community Table. If you are interested, please email the Marketing & Events Coordinator, Jen Schuster at [info@emmausmarket.com](mailto:info@emmausmarket.com). Is there something you'd love to see at our market? Send us an email! We pride ourselves in being one of the few producer-only markets in the Lehigh Valley. Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for any new updates and visit our website to sign up for our weekly newsletter to stay up to date with weekly market happenings: [www.emmausmarket.com](http://www.emmausmarket.com). Don't forget to stop by the market tent to get your #RoosterRewards card punched and represent your favorite farmers' market!



## Zoning and SALDO Update

As we have previously written, the Borough is working to update our Zoning and SALDO Ordinances. While we have completed and adopted the Official Map for the Borough, we have put the brakes on adopting the two Ordinances. After reviewing several concerns from citizens, staff, and elected officials, we felt that we need to go back to the table and work out some of the potential kinks in both Ordinances. We are continuing to work on the Ordinances and anticipate possible adoption of both by the end of June.

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## 2024 Taxes, Water, Sewer, Refuse / Recycling Rates

At its December 18, 2023 Council Meeting, Borough Council adopted the 2024 Budget. With the adoption of the Budget, Council also adopted the tax rates and fee rates for 2024. Below is an explanation of both.

In 2024, both water and sewer rates will remain the same as 2023. The 2025 rates may be affected due to the sewer mandates as well as the PFAS mitigation project and accompanying costs that will occur in the next year. However, in 2024, we were able to keep the rates the same as last year.

Property taxes have slightly increased in the General Fund by about 1.5%. A house assessed at \$200,000 will pay about \$25.00 more in 2024 than in 2023. (The average house is assessed at about \$185,000 in the Borough). Unfortunately, to continue to provide the same services to our community, our costs continue to increase, despite the many initiatives we have taken to offset those costs. Our teams do their very best to save our taxpayers as much as possible. In addition to the over \$400,000 in grant money in 2023, our departments also realized \$635,115.49 in cost savings initiatives through finding new vendors, reducing manpower costs where possible, and finding other efficiencies.

Refuse rates have increased by \$25.00 in 2024 if you pay the annual discount rate. If you don't pay the discount, the rate increase is \$40.00. The Borough has been operating refuse and recycling in the red for the past three years. When we awarded the refuse contract to Whitetail Disposal in 2019, we set the refuse rate based on our overall refuse, recycling, and compost costs. The costs have greatly increased over the past five years; however, we have not increased the rates to offset those increases. The increase is designed to help offset some of the anticipated 2025 increase, as rates are projected to increase between 40% and 60% in 2025, based on preliminary conversations with at least one refuse hauler. Our contract with Whitetail Disposal expires at the end of this year, which means we will need to put the contract out to bid. Our goal is to continue the same level of service, but to offset or minimize any increase that might occur because of a new contract. We are required to award the contract to the lowest qualified bidder, so we do not know who our 2025 hauler will be at this point. As we see new bids come in for refuse contracts across the Lehigh Valley, and knowing that the costs are increasing exponentially, we are working on creating ways to offset some of those costs, while doing our best to keep the same levels of service. We will keep you posted as we go through the bidding process later this year.

With all utilities and property taxes, the overall increase in costs to our residents is about 1.8% in 2024 vs. 2023.

In addition to these fees, there were changes made to the Codes / Planning / Zoning schedule. In 2023, the Borough adopted the fee schedule used by our 3rd party inspection company. We have reduced some of those fees for 2024, as we will be conducting most inspections in-house. However, we have also made changes to other fees to make them more equitable to cover our actual costs for doing plan reviews and inspections.

Lastly, the Borough has changed its pool pass fee structure. We will include this in our summer newsletter. In short, season pool passes will be based on the number of individuals living in a household. In the past, there has been some concern about how "family" was defined for a pool pass. We have eliminated any type of debate by basing season passes on the number of members living in a household at the same address.



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EMMAUS, PA 18049  
610-421-4001

# Happy Spring From the Emmaus Main Street Partners!

PROUD PARTNER OF THE GREATER LEHIGH VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

191 Main St | Suite 205 | Emmaus, PA 18049



## Happy 2024 from the Emmaus Main Street Partners!

Are you hungry for more? First off, we want to thank everyone who participated in our annual Emmaus Soup Crawl and East Penn Area Restaurant Week in February & March. We are so grateful to our participating restaurants and businesses, as well as the businesses that sponsored these events to keep EMSP serving up delicious promotions!

We are also thrilled to continue our partnership with the Emmaus Historical Society again this year for our annual Lucky Bucks Bingo on March 10<sup>th</sup>. This event sells out year after year, showing the true sense of community that Emmaus is known for! In addition to the chance to win cash prizes for bingo, there will be lots of raffle items showcasing our local businesses! This is a can't-miss event to support two non-profits here in Emmaus!



As we have kicked off the Near Year, we look forward to continuing to serve our local business community and members through events and initiatives that bring attention, exposure, and foot traffic to the Emmaus Borough! We do this to ensure we are meeting our mission: to improve the quality of life and the economic vitality of a vibrant and active Emmaus Community through collaborative efforts among business owners, residents, volunteers, and other partners. We look forward to continuing to bring our community together in 2024!

## Save the Date for 2024 Events!

**Emmaus Golf Tournament-** Monday, June 17th

**Farewell to Summer Festival\*\*-** Saturday September 21st from 11am- 3pm

**Small Business Saturday-** Saturday, November 30th

**Old Fashioned Christmas\*\*-** Saturday December 7th from 4-7pm

\*These events will require the Main Street portion of the Triangle to be closed for at least an hour before and after the events.

\*\*For this event, there is potential that South 4<sup>th</sup> Street will be closed in addition to the Main portion of the Triangle

Are you a new or existing business in the area that is interested in learning more about the Chamber and Emmaus Main Street Partners? We have ample ways to get involved - we have something for everyone! Contact us today for more information.

Are you hearing about some of these events for the first time? Learn more about the Chamber of Commerce's event opportunities at [LehighValleyChamber.org/events](http://LehighValleyChamber.org/events), follow Emmaus Main Street Partners on Facebook, @EmmausMSP, and follow the East Penn Chamber of Commerce on Facebook as well, @EastPennChamber.

# Thank you

## A Special Thank You to Our Business Sponsors

This publication is produced at no cost to the Borough of Emmaus residents thanks to the generous sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout the newsletter. The Borough recognizes these businesses as community supporters and encourages its residents to shop locally.

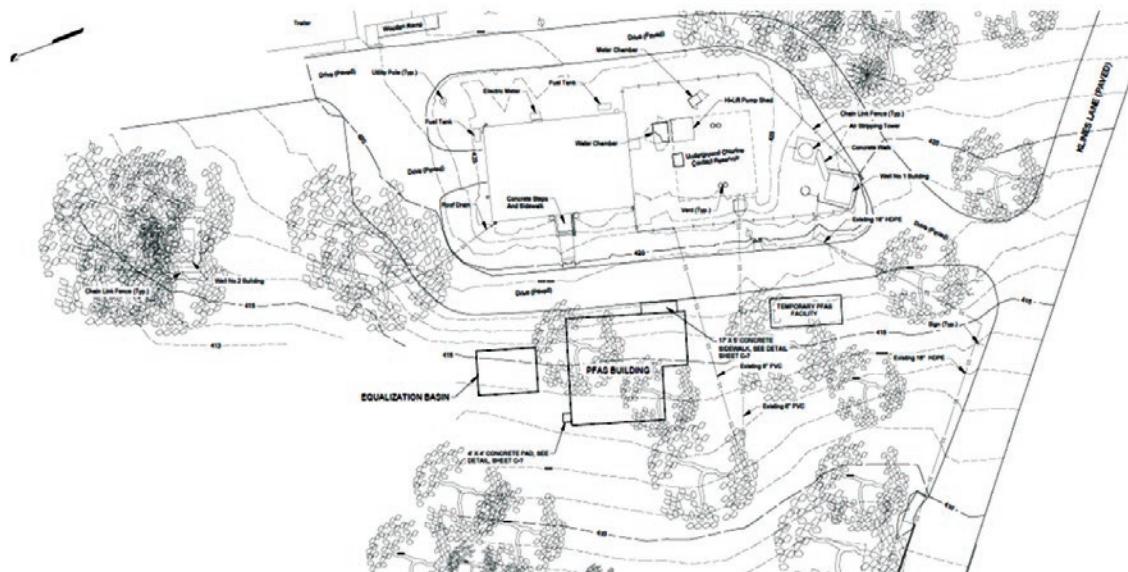
## PFAS Update

We continue to write in the newsletter regarding our status with PFAS and the “forever chemicals”. If you’ve been paying attention to the news lately, there are more and more articles hitting the newsstands relating to PFAS. In recent months, a special report was released regarding certain brands of bottled water containing high levels of PFAS. In August 2023, a scientific study released by Environment America stated “that PFAS are now likely present in all major drinking water supplies in the U.S.” There are lawsuits all across the nation, where communities are suing plastic manufacturers, firefighting foam manufacturers, and other businesses for knowingly including PFAS-laden materials in their products. The issue has literally become a global concern, as levels of PFAS are being found in fish, meat, clothing, wax, streams, rivers, and even in our rainwater.

There are many communities that are either ignoring this issue or running from the issue. We are doing neither, however, it is taking much longer to mitigate than we had hoped. As you should be aware, we completed our feasibility study and held several public meetings at the conclusion of the study. It was very clear to Borough Council that the members of our community have a desire to mitigate our system rather than searching to outsource. Therefore, we have geared 100% of our efforts to doing this. To update you on our current progress, our engineering team from Gannett Flemming is finishing up the initial design to submit to PA DEP for an emergency permit. We received an engineering assistance grant from PennVest to help offset some of the cost for engineering. Currently, our consultants are working to engineer a system large enough that is going to be able to take out PFAS at a capacity that can handle the pressure and speed of the two wells that will feed into the tank. The rate of water flows at over 650 gallons per minute per well. The system needs to be able to activate and remove the PFAS before it leaves into the rest of the drinking water system. That is going to require two large tanks that are at least 12 feet in diameter and over 20 feet high. They will have to connect into our system and will need to be housed inside a newly built building, as they must be indoors and temperature-controlled. Additionally, the system has to be designed so as to not offset any other chemical treatment or the air strippers that are already installed on the well systems. We will need to build an equalization basin along with the tanks and plumb all new lines from the wells to the well houses.

Once we receive the emergency permits for the two wells, we will immediately apply for additional grant funds, as we have been working with PA DEP, Gannett Fleming, Larson Design Group, and PennVest for grant funding for construction of the system. Our goal is to offset the huge capital cost that it is going to take to build this system, as we expect it to cost upwards of \$5 million to \$6 million. In addition

to this, there are traces of PFAS in most of the Borough's wells. Before we reach "dangerous" levels, it is our position that we should treat every well in the Borough that has any detection at all. The total cost, including wells 1 and 2, is expected to exceed \$16 million. To be very clear, the only wells that are affected by foam are wells # 1 and 2. Two of our other wells take water from underground springs from the creek. Those wells are also detecting low levels of PFAS in them.



Our latest PFAS testing results from February 5, 2024 showed Well # 2 reading: PFOA – 111 ng/L (parts per trillion), PFOS – 1090. Total combined: 1,201. Well # 1 reading: PFOA – 26.2. PFOS – 284. Total combined: 310.2. Both are unacceptable and much higher than “acceptable” standards.

We truly do appreciate the community's patience regarding this, as we are working every day to try to expedite remediation. Unfortunately, it's not as easy as simply applying a filter to our system, otherwise, we would have done this already. We will continue to update you as more information is available. We are doing our very best to continue to expedite this as quickly as possible, however, it is vital that all of the engineering and calculations are correct, that the systems are sized correctly, and that the chemical treatment in the system does not create another chemical issue. Before we spend millions of dollars, we need to be absolutely sure that the appropriate system is in place to protect our community and supply our citizens with good, clean drinking water. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Borough Manager at 610-965-6357 or [spepe@emmauspa.gov](mailto:spepe@emmauspa.gov).

## Sewer Improvements

If you pay attention to local news, you have probably read about the future improvements to the Allentown Klines Island Sewer Plant, as well as to the Pretreatment Plant in Upper Macungie Township. The Borough has been meeting with and working with LCA and all the municipalities in Lehigh County for a number of years to complete our regional Act 537 Plan, as mandated by PA DEP. As part of the mandate from PA DEP, there are a lot of improvements that will need to be made. It is estimated that those improvements could reach over \$500 million, however, LCA is working to reduce the overall cost of the project. While we cannot control those improvements or the overall cost, we do have a responsibility to pay our share of those improvements. We will keep you updated as the plan is finalized by next year.

However, we have our own improvements that need to be made. The Borough has been working feverishly to inspect our sewer mains and manholes to try to identify our most susceptible areas of water inflow and infiltration. We recently received a \$425,000 grant to repair and replace manholes and sewer main work to help address the issue. In addition, we are working on obtaining a \$4 million loan through PennVest to help reduce rainwater from getting into the system. Moreover, anyone who sells a property is required to inspect and repair their sewer laterals. This is all part of the mandate of the Act 537 Plan. Because our system was designed and built around 1959, the piping under our streets is not without significant issues, and it is quite costly to repair. It is evident that rainwater reaches the system, as we average approximately 1 million gallons per day of sewer flow. However, on a day where we had a somewhat heavy rainstorm, that number will reach over 5 million gallons. That number increases with heavier storms. This costs our taxpayers more, and it is part of the problem that can lead to the Allentown Sewer Plant overflowing and spilling into the Lehigh River. With all municipalities doing their part, and through upgrades to the sewer plant, we will be able to ensure that the environment is protected, and that our normal operating costs are reduced. We will continue to keep you informed as progress continues with the planning and implementation of these improvements.

## EMMAUS COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Emmaus Community Yard Sales are held on the weekends after Memorial Day and Labor Day, when it is not necessary to obtain a permit to have a yard sale and no fee is required. This year, the Community Yard Sales are scheduled for Saturday, June 1, 2024 with a rain date of Sunday, June 2, 2024, and Saturday, September 7, 2024 with a rain date of Sunday, September 8, 2024.

## THE EMMAUS VETERANS COMMITTEE

### The Emmaus Veterans Committee is Calling all Veterans on May 27, 2024

The Emmaus Veterans Committee is looking for as many veterans as possible to participate in the Emmaus Memorial Day Parade to honor our deceased veterans. The parade will form at the Emmaus High School parking lot at 9 a.m. and begin at 9:30 a.m. The Parade will proceed to the Memorial Triangle located at N. 4th & North Streets. It would be great to have a large contingent of Veterans marching in the parade. A flatbed truck with seating will be available for those who are only able to walk short distances or who have other restrictive conditions. Please consider joining us this year to contribute to this very important remembrance. For more information or questions please contact John Eyer, Parade Coordinator (610-390-5463) or Joe Kavchok,(484-951-3290)



## Borough of Emmaus & Upper Milford Township

### SAVE THE DATE FOR EARTH DAY 2024 COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Please join the Borough of Emmaus & Upper Milford Township Joint Advisory Council (EAC) on Saturday, April 20th from 8:30 a.m. to noon for the Earth Day 2024 Community Cleanup event. The event will begin at Emmaus Community Park. Help clean up litter and debris from areas around the Borough and the Township. Electronics recycling will be available from 9:00 a.m. until noon, or until the truck is full. Stop by with items to recycle like TVs, computers, printers, air conditioners, and batteries! (Some fees apply) Document shredding will also be available, at no charge, at the event from 9:00 a.m. to noon, or until the truck is full. Any type of office paper will be accepted. There is no need to remove staples and document shredding will take place on site while you wait. Items not accepted are newspapers, cardboard, or books. There is a limit of 4 boxes per household (office file size boxes only). The Earth Day event will be held rain or shine. For more information and price lists, please visit [www.uppermilford.net](http://www.uppermilford.net) or email [infor@uppermilford.net](mailto:infor@uppermilford.net).



## Permits are Required

Spring is right around the corner, and now is the time that many of us think about starting those home improvement projects we have been planning all winter long. If you are preparing to start a project, please remember that permits are required for many projects. The Borough has a Zoning Ordinance and a Building Code that contain requirements for many indoor and outdoor home improvement projects. Permits are required for: roof repairs, building repairs or remodels (causing structural changes), footers, foundations, framing, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, signs, solar panels, fences, sheds, dumpsters, demolition, solicitation/peddling, driveways, pools or spas, and zoning. Please remember that if you are planning to install a swimming pool, any swimming pool over twenty-four inches (24") inches in depth and/or has pumping equipment requires a zoning, building, and electrical permit. Applications for all permits are available online! Download applications for permits from the Borough's website at [www.emmauspa.gov](http://www.emmauspa.gov). On the website under "Services," click on "Forms and Applications" and choose which application you need. Simply fill it out and either email the completed application to [efuhrmann@emmauspa.gov](mailto:efuhrmann@emmauspa.gov) or [breed@emmauspa.gov](mailto:breed@emmauspa.gov) or mail the completed application to Borough Hall at 28 S. 4th Street, Emmaus, PA 18049 or place it in the box marked "Payments." If you are unsure if you need a permit, or have any questions about permits, please call the Code Enforcement Office at 610-967-1322.

## Recent Grant Award Announcements

Grants are an extremely important part of being able to affordably complete major projects in any community, as the costs of projects are often cost prohibitive for normal operating budgets. Over the past decade, the Borough has been very successful in obtaining grant funds, as we have received over \$8.5 million in grants through 64 different grants.

Recent and current projects that include grant funding grants include the South 2nd Street reconstruction project. We received \$575,000 in 2021 through two separate multimodal transportation grants to reconstruct the street and increase pedestrian safety along the street. This project is anticipated to be completed by the end of June. We were also fortunate enough to receive \$190,476 in two separate FEMA grants for our Fire Department. This assisted in adding a new sprinkler system, as well as an exhaust removal system to Central Station. We received several other grants in conjunction with the Lehigh County Conservation District to conduct a streambank and flood mitigation project along Williams Street Park. Moreover, we received a \$83,131 passthrough grant to assist Seven Generations Charter School in building a new amphitheater. We have also received grants from the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation for small downtown improvements, as well as DEP grants for recycling efforts and a new dump truck.

In 2023, we received 7 separate grants, totaling \$419,428. We recently received a \$100,000 grant to repair our fire training tower. In addition, our EMS department received a \$40,247 grant to purchase a new Lifepak 15 monitor and defibrillator. We also received a \$157,550 CDBG grant from Lehigh County to assist the

Borough in adding more federally mandated handicap curb cuts on Main Street and Chestnut Street in 2024. You will see the work begin this summer. We also received \$36,000 from PennWest to offset some of the engineering fees for our PFAS remediation project. Moreover, we are extremely excited to begin working on the Lions Park project this year, as we received a \$318,400 grant in 2022 to begin reconstructing the park. More details on this exciting project are in another article.

To start out the new year, the Borough received two significant grant awards, totaling \$1,625,000! We received \$1.2 million in an ARPA H2O grant to rehabilitate all the Borough's well holding tanks. This project will ensure that the tanks will last another 50 years. To replace one of our smaller well tanks, the estimated cost would be about \$4 million. To replace our large 1.2-million-gallon tank, we are told that the cost would be nearly \$8 million. Therefore, extending the lifecycle of our current tanks is vital! Lastly, the Borough just received a \$425,000 ARPA Small Water & Sewer Grant to assist us in our sewer inflow and infiltration efforts. This project will focus on repairing manholes where rainwater pours into the sewers, as well as relining damaged and cracked sewer mains to prevent additional water from entering.

Most grants fund between 50% and 70% of entire projects. We are responsible for funding the remainder of the costs of these projects. Without this funding assistance, we would not be able to make many of the necessary upgrades and repairs to our infrastructure that we have been able to do.

## Groceries-PLUS – Here to Help!

Groceries-PLUS at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church is profoundly grateful for the support we receive from neighbors in 2023. Thank you to:

- Churches in Emmaus and Lower Macungie,
- Civic groups in Emmaus,
- East Penn School District schools,
- Private schools and home school groups,
- Preschools,
- Emmaus area businesses, and
- Generous neighbors and friends

You have supported Groceries-PLUS with your food drives, your

financial and material contributions and by volunteering.

Thanks to you, Groceries-PLUS served about 120 households in Emmaus each month with 4 to 8 bags of groceries and household goods; goods that guests selected for themselves.

The need continues into 2024 and Groceries-PLUS will continue to operate.

For more information about the pantry (giving or receiving), please call Bethel Church (610 965 2682, press 1). Leave a message and we will call you back.



## Go Paperless! with Express Bill Pay

Not sure if you received this quarter's water/sewer or refuse bill? Are you worried about mailing your bills and having them get to their destination by the due date? To offer you more choices in how you pay your bills, the Borough of Emmaus offers paperless billing, online bill payment, and credit card payments to pay your utility bills.

All you need is an Internet connection through a web browser and an email address. Once you sign up for your account and start using the service, you will wonder why you ever waited so long to sign up!

It's simple to use. Every quarter we will send you a reminder email to let you know when your bill is available online. Then, just log in to your account at XpressBillPay.com and view your bill. It's formatted like your paper statement so it will look familiar to you. When you are ready to pay your bill, select a payment type. You can pay with a credit card, debit card, or electric funds transfer. Then enter the information and you're done. It's that easy, and it only takes a few minutes each quarter.

It's free to sign up, but there is a \$3.50 convenience fee to use the single payment, as we are charged transaction fees by the credit card companies, however, automatic reoccurring payments are FREE.

We offered this service at your request. You asked and we delivered! To sign up, just go to [www.emmauspa.gov](http://www.emmauspa.gov). On the home page, click Utility Bill Pay.

### Q&A About Online Bill Payment

**Q: Does it cost anything to sign up for online bill payment or paperless billing?**

**A:** No. It's free to sign up for paperless billing and online bill payment and to use the service.

There is a \$3.50 convenience fee for one-time payments to help cover the costs from the credit card companies.

## Xpress BILL PAY

**Q: What is Xpress Bill Pay?**

**A:** Xpress Bill Pay is the company that the Borough has partnered with to handle paperless and online bill payment.

**Q: What payment choices do I have using Xpress Bill Pay?**

**A:** You can pay your utility bills with a credit or debit card, or you can transfer funds directly from your checking account.

**Q: What will my paperless bill look like online?**

**A:** It is formatted like your paper statement, so it will look familiar to you.

**Q: What other information is available?**

**A:** You can view up to a year's history of your account online, so you can compare your current bill to a year ago.

**Q: Do I need to pay my bills from my computer?**

**A:** Not at all. You can continue to pay your bill via mail or in person.

**Q: How do I know my payment went through?**

**A:** Once the transaction is complete, you will receive an email or text receipt to confirm that your payment went through.

**Q: Is my information safe?**

**A:** All of the transactions are held on secure servers. If you don't give out your password, only you will be able to access your account. Plus, your personal information or email address will not be sold or rented to third parties for marketing purposes without your permission.

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*Alexis Deputy*

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